

## CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

**Title of publication:** DSC\_0086

**Other known title(s):** Not stated

**OFLC ref:** 2000126.011

**Medium:** Image File

**Publisher:** Not stated

**Country of origin:** Not stated

**Language:** Not applicable

**Applicant:** Commissioner of Police

**Classification:** Objectionable.

**Descriptive note:** None

**Display conditions:** None

**Date of entry in Register:** 16 June 2020

**Date of direction to issue a label:** No direction to issue a label has been issued

**Date of notice of decision:** 16 June 2020

### Summary of reasons for decision:

The image file depicts a man abusing a young boy. It is deemed objectionable because it promotes and supports the exploitation of children for sexual purposes. The image presents young boys as sexually available and appropriate subjects for adult sexual use. It is clearly intended to be sexually arousing to people with a prurient interest in young boys. The availability of the image encourages and legitimises such an interest. As a digital file it can be shared widely among like-minded individuals, perpetuating this interest. The image may also be used for grooming other children for sexual abuse. The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 on the application of the classification criteria. The classification of this publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression, but this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications that promote and support the exploitation of children for sexual purposes be deemed objectionable. It also reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect its young and vulnerable members from exploitation and harm.